

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 12684 201353Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: DRAFT COMMUNIQUE FOR OECD MINISTERIAL

1. FOLLOWING ARE DRAFT SECTIONS ON RELATIONS WITH
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND COMMODITIES TO BE INCLUDED IN
COMMUNIQUE FOR OECD MINISTERIAL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

6. MINISTERS ADOPTED AN OECD DECLARATION ON RELATIONS
WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ANNEXED TO THIS COMMUNIQUE).
MINISTERS AGREED ON THE NEED FOR A REVIEW OF MEMBER
COUNTRIES' ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
THEY FURTHER AGREED THAT THE OECD SHOULD CARRY OUT SUCH
A REVIEW WHICH SHOULD IDENTIFY WHAT NEW AND CONSTRUCTIVE
APPROACHES COULD BE ADOPTED ON SELECTED SUBSTANTIVE
DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.

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PAGE 02 OECD P 12684 201353Z

COMMODITIES

7. MINISTERS STRESSED THAT ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF PRIMARY COMMODITIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE WORLD ECONOMY, AND RECOGNIZED THE COMMON INTEREST OF PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, WHETHER THEY BE IN DEVELOPED OR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IN AVOIDING EXCESSIVE FLUCTUATIONS IN COMMODITY MARKETS. THIS CONVERGENCE OF INTEREST IS REINFORCED BY THE IMPORTANCE TO PRODUCERS OF ASSURED ACCESS TO MARKETS AND TO CONSUMERS OF SECURE SUPPLIES. THESE QUESTIONS ARE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON EXPORT EARNINGS FROM PRIMARY COMMODITIES.

8. RECOGNIZING THAT CIRCUMSTANCES VARY GREATLY BETWEEN DIFFERENT COMMODITIES AND GROUPS OF COMMODITIES, MINISTERS AGREED ON THE NEED FOR A MORE ACTIVE AND CONCERTED POLICY TOWARDS COMMODITIES, ENCOMPASSING:

-- PRAGMATIC STEPS TO REDUCE MARKET INSTABILITY AND PROMOTE LONGER RUN EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION, TAILORED TO SUIT THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE COMMODITY OR COMMODITIES IN QUESTION;

--MORE GENERAL MEASURES TO ENSURE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF INVESTMENT IN PRIMARY INDUSTRIES;

--HELP FOR THE DEVELOPING PRODUCER COUNTRIES THROUGH IMPROVED MARKET OUTLETS, INCREASED LOCAL PROCESSING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THEIR PLANS FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND STABILIZATION SCHEMES FOR THE POORER PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

9. WITH REGARD TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, IT WAS AGREED THAT ADVANTAGE SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THE BETTER SUPPLY POSITION EXPECTED THIS YEAR TO BEGIN REBUILDING SECURITY STOCKS OF ESSENTIAL FOODSTUFFS.

10. MINISTERS AGREED THAT THESE QUESTIONS SHOULD BE PURSUED ACTIVELY IN THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL BODIES CONCERNED, WITH A VIEW TO REACHING CONCRETE SOLUTIONS
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PAGE 03 OECD P 12684 201353Z

BASED ON COOPERATION BETWEEN PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES. THEY WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HIGH-LEVEL GROUP IN THE OECD TO HELP CONCERT MEMBER COUNTRIES' ATTITUDES ON BOTH GENERAL ASPECTS OF THEIR COMMODITY POLICIES AND SPECIFIC ACTION ON PARTICULAR COMMODITIES. END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: COMMENTS BY OPENING OF BUSINESS

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